



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,757	06/25/2003	Takehiro Kanou	5258-000019	2165
25944	7590	08/31/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320				CHAN, KO HUNG
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		3632		

DATE MAILED: 08/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/603,757	KANOU, TAKEHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Korie H. Chan	3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 3 and 5-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 3 and 5-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 23, 2005 has been entered.

DETAILED ACTION

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 3, 7, 11, 12, 14, 19, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hunley, Jr. et al. (US patent no. 4,907,769). Hunley discloses a vehicle-mounted unit, comprising: a first bracket (12) including a first bolt through-hole (end of slide passage 20) sized to receive a first supporting bolt (84 of foot 18, figure 4) and a first slide passage (20) extending in a first direction from an outer periphery of the first bracket to the first bolt through-hole, the first slide passage laterally guiding the first supporting bolt toward the first bolt through-hole; and a second bracket (14) including a second bolt through-hole (end of slide passage 24) sized to receive a second supporting bolt (84 of foot 22) and a second slide passage (24) extending in a second direction from an outer periphery of the second bracket to the second bolt through-hole, the second slide passage laterally guiding the second supporting bolt toward the second bolt through-hole; wherein the first direction is not opposite to the second direction, and

the vehicle-mounted unit is free of any slide passage that extends in a direction opposite to the first direction, and the vehicle-mounted unit is free of any slide passage that extends in a direction opposite to the second direction; wherein the first direction is different from the second direction. Regarding 19, Hunley discloses a hollow body (34) made of synthetic resin material (abstract, line 8). Regarding claims 19 and 22, Hunley discloses the unit is to be mounted on a vehicle.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 3, 7-9, and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by applicant in figures 6A-6B (herein referred to as PA) in view of Gretz (US 6,509,524). PA discloses all the claimed features of applicant's invention except for providing perpendicular slide passages for receiving the bolts. To provide slide passages or slots on mounting brackets is notoriously old and well-known in the art. They have the known advantage of attaching and removing the brackets without complete removal of the fastener for temporary retention or to facilitate quick mounting and removal of the bracket from its support. Gretz teaches in a bracket (12) having perpendicular slide passages (54) for receiving bolts (56). It would have been obvious to one of ordinarily skilled in the art to have modified the hole mounting of Prior Art such that it is of the slide passage type as taught by Gretz to facilitate the known advantage of quick mount and dismount. Regarding claim 8, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to provide two of such units.

Claims 5, 6, 10, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by applicant in figures 6A-6B (herein referred to

as PA) in view of Gretz (US 6,509,524) as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Welch (US patent no. 3,894,377). PA and Gretz combined demonstrated all the claimed features of applicant's invention except for the slide passage inner periphery has resilient tabs at opposite side edges and a latch flange at the periphery of the bolt through-hole. Welch teaches a bracket (figure 5) for receiving a screw (30) wherein the bracket has a slide passage inner periphery with resilient tabs (66 and 68, figure 5) at opposite side edges and a latch flange (52, 78, figure 1) at the periphery of the bolt through-hole for engaging the shaft of the screw for locking the bracket to the screw. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modify the slide passageway and bolt through-hole periphery of PA and Gretz combined by providing resilient tabs and latch flange therein for locking the bracket with the bolt as taught by Welch.

Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by applicant in figures 6A-6B (herein referred to as PA) in view of Gretz (US 6,509,524) and Welch (US patent no. 3,894,377) as discussed above, and further in view of Brandt (US patent no. 3,967,049). PA, Gretz and Welch disclosed all the claimed features of applicant's invention except for disclose the flange engages the valley of the thread. Brandt teaches a mounting unit having passage (16) for threaded bolt (18) wherein the passage has a flange (20) engaging the valley of the threads (18). It would have been obvious to one of ordinarily skilled in the art to have modify the flange of PA, Gretz and Welch combined such that the flange engages the valley of the threads as taught by Brandt to increase grip of the bolt.

Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by applicant in figures 6A-6B (herein referred to as PA) in view of Gretz (US 6,509,524) and further in view of Neff et al (US patent no. 4,214,668). PA discloses all the claimed features of applicant's invention except for providing slide passages for receiving the bolts. To provide slide passages or slots on mounting brackets is notoriously old and well-known in the art. They have the known advantage of attaching and removing the brackets without complete removal of the fastener for temporary retainment or to facilitate quick mounting and removal of the bracket from its support. Gretz teaches in a bracket (12) having perpendicular slide passages (54) for receiving bolts (56). It would have been obvious to one of ordinarily skilled in the art to have modify the hole mounting of Prior Art such that it is of the slide passage type as taught by Gretz to facilitate the known advantage of quick mount and dismount.

PA and Gretz combined does not disclose the unit as being a junction box made of synthetic material for mounting printed circuit board. Neff teaches a junction box (10) made of synthetic material (col. 2, lines 47-49). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modify the mounting unit of PA and Gretz combined such that they are of junction box type made of synthetic material as taught by Neff for mounting electrical devices.

Regarding applicant's intended use of "printed circuit board junction box" which is interpreted as for mounting printed circuit board, the vehicle mounted unit of PA, Gretz and Neff combined is capable of mounting printed circuit board.

Response to Arguments

Art Unit: 3632

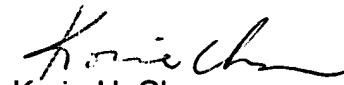
Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Korie H. Chan whose telephone number is 571-272-6816. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on 571-272-6788. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Korie H. Chan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

khc
August 23, 2005